



We believe in a Fridley that is a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses.

6431 University Avenue NE
Fridley, MN 55432
phone: 763-571-3450
www.FridleyMN.gov
e-mail: info@FridleyMN.gov

Mayor – Scott J. Lund
Councilmember-at-Large – Robert L. Barnette
Councilmember 1st Ward – James T. Saefke
Councilmember 2nd Ward – Dolores M. Varichak
Councilmember 3rd Ward – Ann R. Bolkcom
City Manager – Wally Wysopal

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From Vision to Reality: Springbrook 2016

Over a decade ago, a small group of volunteers and City staff created a vision for Springbrook Nature Center. A vision to revitalize the 7-acre park entrance and expand the interpretive center to allow for new programming, a beautiful setting to host weddings and special events, and grow environmental education. Today, the first and biggest jewel in that vision is about to shine.

The SPRING project (Sanctuary Protection and Renewal Into the Next Generation) has been a community partnership from the very beginning. The Springbrook Nature Center Foundation, a non-profit group of volunteers passionate about preserving the natural environment and educating the community, worked tirelessly with the City to create a vision, find funding and craft a plan to make it all happen. This summer, we open the doors and invite you to step inside that vision.

Welcome to Springbrook's new 13,000 square foot interpretive center and banquet hall!

What is an Interpretive Center?

- **A place of learning:** Springbrook Nature Center will now house four classrooms with observation windows, doors leading to trails and easy access to indoor exhibits.
- **A place of celebration:** Springbrook will soon be the go-to place to gather friends and family. Our beautiful banquet room with 18-foot windows looking out at the prairie is the perfect setting for weddings, reunions, business retreats, birthday parties and more.
- **A place to reflect:** Relax in the lounge next to the fireplace. Comfy seating and nature views encourage you to take a moment and just breathe.
- **A place of growth:** Expand your knowledge. Our exhibits, volunteers and naturalists will help you discover new ways we all connect to our natural environment.
- **A place to connect:** Join our family of volunteers and visitors as we bond with animals, plants and people. Meet others who share your love of nature.



Springbrook Nature Center's new interpretive center will feature dynamic exhibits including live animals, a crawl-through prairie soil exhibit featuring oversized insects, and a large tree exhibit with dozens of interactive components. These exhibits will educate and engage visitors of all ages. Visit our nature-themed puppet theater or explore an interactive touchscreen kiosk on the 1986 tornado that dramatically changed the Springbrook landscape.



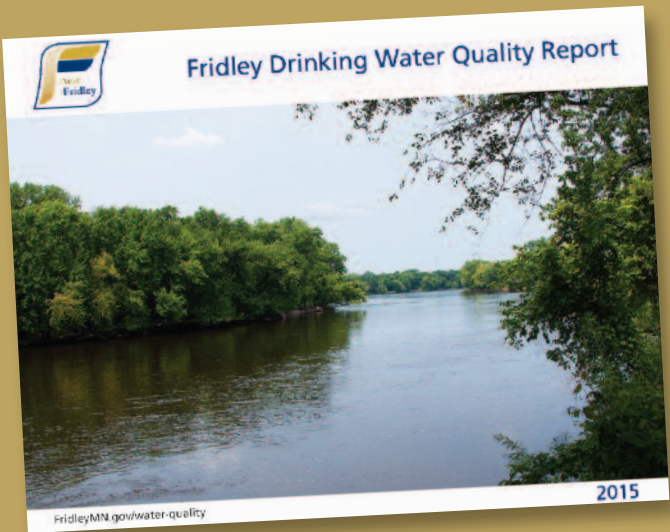
This is just the beginning for the SPRING project! Designs are nearly complete for a community amphitheater and nature-based play space, anticipated to open in the summer of 2017. The amphitheater will host nature center events and programs, plus provide a beautiful backdrop for outdoor events such as weddings or concerts. The nature-based play space invites children to climb, splash, dig and explore in a natural setting. A hand pump will provide just enough water to form a kid-size river or pond and will be paired with sand play for endless creative fun. Larger elements will allow for climbing, jumping and building amongst the shade trees and trails. The Springbrook Nature Center Foundation also continues to raise funds for the addition of a picnic pavilion to complete the SPRING Project.

Celebrate Springbrook's
Grand Opening and
Join Us on
Saturday, July 30!

(see page 3 for details)



Commute Solutions: Connecting the Extra Mile



Fridley 2015 Water Quality Report

You can now view our annual water quality report online at www.FridleyMN.gov/water-quality.

Once again we are proud to report that your drinking water meets all state and federal standards. Your drinking water continues to be safe, and we continue our commitment to keeping you informed. The 2015 Water Quality Report includes details on the results of water quality testing last year and news relating to Fridley’s water system.

Our goal is always to go above and beyond current state and federal standards to ensure safe drinking water for our customers. When a new concern surfaced in 2013 regarding a possible contaminant called 1,4-dioxane, we acted swiftly to remove even remote traces of this substance from Fridley water supply.

For the latest water quality information, please visit us online at www.FridleyMN.gov/water. We are also happy to answer any questions or concerns. Give us a call at 763-572-3566.

Attention Entrepreneurs, Future and Present!

Need a Trusted Business Advisor?
A Free Business Consultant?
Money to Start or Expand Your Business?

The Fridley “Open To Business” program could be just what you need to get going. Free one-on-one counseling with a business advisor and assistance in identifying financial resources. For more information or to get started, call 763-438-7315 or email kduchene@mccdmn.org or find us online at www.opentobusinessmn.org.

Sick of rush hour traffic? Have you considered commuting to work, but have some reservations? What happens if I get delayed at work and miss my ride? What if there’s an emergency? What if it is too cold to walk from the stop or station to my work?

Anoka County’s Commute Solutions helps tackle all those concerns. This free service connects you with resources such as finding a carpool or vanpool, determining the most convenient routes and making sure you get the best deals on bus or train passes.

Did you know...? Metro Transit offers a free Guaranteed Ride Home program for regular commuters who encounter a family emergency or have to work late unexpectedly.

There’s also a free online account called Trip Tracker that allows you to log your commute solution (carpool, bus, train, etc), and every month you are entered into a \$100 gift card drawing.

But wait, there’s more! Commute Solutions and the City of Fridley are working together to bridge the gap between the Northstar Station and your workplace. Thanks to a \$240,000 federal grant, we will be able to provide a free shuttle service from Fridley Northstar Station to major employers starting in early 2017 and lasting for at least one year.

To learn more about ways to commute to and from Fridley, visit anokacounty.us/CommuteSolutions.



Save Energy Costs and Money on New Appliances and Fixtures
Rebate = up to 50% of your cost

Eligible items for replacement include:
Toilets: Replace your old or leaky toilet with a U.S. EPA WaterSense labeled toilet and save up to \$200.
Washer: Upgrade to an Energy Star qualified clothes washing machine and save up to \$150.
Irrigation Systems: Get an audit by a WaterSense audit-certified professional and the rebate may include controller replacement with a WaterSense labeled controller, or the replacement of broken or inefficient sprinkler heads. Save up to \$200.
Download a rebate application online at FridleyMN.gov/watergrant, or call 763-572-3554.

How do I choose a qualified, energy-efficient product? Look for an Energy Star symbol (clothes washer) or a WaterSense logo (toilets).

I lost my receipt, can I still get the rebate? We need proof of purchase. You will need to show a copy of your receipt or irrigation audit.

Who is authorized to do irrigation system audits in Fridley? Contact Water in Motion at 763-559-1010.

What about replacing other water fixtures such as shower heads?At this time, Metropolitan Council is only authorizing replacements of toilets, clothes washers and irrigation audits. They may consider other water fixture replacements for future programs. Shower and faucet heads may also be available through a Home Energy Enhanced Visit available through CenterPoint Energy. The City of Fridley buys down half the cost of these visits, so they are available for only \$50 and includes many energy-saving materials. Learn more at MnCee.org/Fridley.

REEL IN THE REWARDS

WITH FRIDLEY LIQUOR

For hours, directions and reward program details, visit: FridleyLiquor.com

A cartoon illustration of a smiling fisherman wearing a yellow life vest, blue jeans, and a brown hat. He is holding a fishing rod with a green fish on the line and a can of beer in his other hand. A fishing lure is visible on the line.

Like Us on Facebook:
facebook.com/FridleyLiquor

Follow Us on Twitter:
[@FridleyLiquor](https://twitter.com/FridleyLiquor)

The logo for Fridley Liquor Rewards, featuring a circular emblem with the words 'FRIDLEY LIQUOR' and 'REWARDS' around a central design.

We have the supplies you **really** need for a weekend at the lake!

Fridley Market:
University Ave. & I-694
(763) 571-1994

Moore Lake Drive:
Hwy 65
(763) 571-8365

Development Updates

New Hotel

Spring construction is underway and new buildings will soon take form. Construction on the new WoodSpring Suites Hotel in Fridley Market has started. Look for this 124-bed hotel to be a welcome addition to the area in the near future, conveniently located near I-694 and University Avenue. WoodSpring Hotels market to business travelers or vacationers looking for a place to stay for a week or more with practical needs, down-to-earth attitudes and a comfortable style, who appreciate the value of life’s necessities – done really well.



Fridley Market

We are eagerly anticipating the opening of several new stores and eateries in the new building at Fridley Market. This growing area will soon be home to Caribou Coffee, Great Clips and Pancheros Mexican Grille. Look for doors to open as soon as this summer!

Northern Stacks

Northern Stacks also continues on an aggressive schedule, with construction on their next office building, as well as beginning Phase III of the clean-up project for this site. To help with this progress, they were recently awarded a \$902,500 grant from the Metropolitan Council to facilitate soil remediation, soil mitigation and treatment of contaminated groundwater. This site was once part of the former Naval Industrial Reserve Ordnance Plant.

Once fully developed, Northern Stacks may bring as many as 3,000 new jobs to Fridley.

City Hall Update

After careful consideration and extensive interviews conducted by representatives from each department, City staff made a recommendation to the City Council to consider hiring BKV Group to provide architectural services for the potential civic complex project. The selection and hiring of an architectural firm is the next step in determining the plans and costs involved in creating a new civic complex at the former Columbia Arena site. This is a necessary investment in order to determine if this direction is right for the City.

On April 11, the Fridley City Council unanimously approved the recommendation to contract with BKV Group as the architects for the Fridley Civic Complex. This approval only allows the contract to be executed. Additional Council action will be required to provide a green light to build a new complex. That approval will not be determined until all the costs, options and factors for designing and building such a complex have been laid out in detail, along with plans for funding. This process is expected to take about a year.

General Mills Digs in with Fridley

Approximately 15 General Mills volunteers got their hands dirty during Earth Week by planting trees in Community Park.

Thousands of City ash trees are at risk for decimation by an insect pest — Emerald Ash Borer, which has already been found within Anoka County. Fridley has over 1,100 ash trees on City-owned property alone. Thanks to a \$36,000 grant from the Department of Natural Resources, Fridley staff are getting a jumpstart on tackling this problem. The grant is intended to help cities accelerate tree planting in parks and on city property by providing small trees and supplies for planting. Other partners like the Conservation Corps, University of Minnesota, HandsOn Twin Cities and Tree Trust will also provide training and education for community tree planting events.

General Mills employees were the first to dig in and help us plant new trees. Volunteers from various departments joined together for this team-building event, sharing both a love of nature and comradery in spite of drizzly weather. A week later, the Fridley



Middle School Builders Club also led a tree planting ceremony at our Arbor Day Celebration.

We have the trees—now we need the hands! If you, or your group, are interested in organizing a team-building event or group activity centered around tree planting, we want to hear from you. Contact Kay Qualley, Environmental Planner, at 763-572-3594 or Kay.Qualley@FridleyMN.gov.

Fridley Community Calendar

June

- 2 HRA Meeting
- 6 Parks & Recreation Commission
- 13 City Council Meeting
- 14 Environmental Quality & Energy Commission
- 16 Fridley ‘49er Days Parade
- 17-18 Fridley ‘49er Days events at Commons Park
- 20 Conference Meeting
- 24 Absentee Voting Opens
- 27 City Council Meeting

July

- 4 City offices closed in observance of Independence Day
- 7 HRA Meeting
- 11 City Council Meeting
- 12 Environmental Quality & Energy Commission
- 20 Planning Commission
- 23 Recycling Drop-off Event at the Public Works Garage
- 25 City Council Meeting
- 30 Springbrook Nature Center Grand Opening

NOTE: City Council and Commission meetings start at 7:00 p.m. Meetings are held at the Municipal Center, 6431 University Avenue NE. The public is welcome.

Hearing impaired persons who need an interpreter or other persons with disabilities who require auxiliary aids and would like to attend a meeting, should contact Roberta Collins at 763-572-3500 at least one week in advance.



City of Fridley

Springbrook

Nature Center

Ice Cream • Tours • Music

GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION

Saturday, July 30

Formal Ceremony at 1:00 p.m. Ribbon-cutting and community celebration to follow from 1:30 - 4:00 p.m.



Directions and Details: SpringbrookNatureCenter.org

Fall League Registration Begins July 11



League play begins mid-August

Teams play 5 weeks of doubleheaders at Community Park.

Entry fee: \$385 includes 10 games, umpires and softballs



Sundays, September 11 – October 30

FridleyMN.gov
763-572-3570

A touch football activity designed to tame down the “rough” style of play. No running plays allowed in this all passing league. Teams play 7 games and are scheduled around the Vikings telecasts.

Entry fee: \$80



Hard to Say Goodbye

Fridley Planning Commission member Dean Saba, age 70, lost a very courageous battle with scleroderma. Family and friends gathered on March 8 to celebrate his life and his service to the Fridley community.

Dean loved Fridley and was very active with the City. He volunteered on two commissions and served as the President of the Fridley Lions Club. ‘49er Days was always one of his favorite events.

Dean grew up in Northeast Minneapolis and graduated from high school in Columbia Heights. He led a faith-filled life and was very active at St. Matthew Lutheran Church. He enjoyed 50s and 60s music and played in a garage band in his youth. His other hobbies included photography, camping, fishing, boating, and most of all, spending time with his family. He married Lynne Vogt in 1969, and raised three children in Fridley. He worked as an engineer at Unisys (formerly Sperry Corp.), CNT, and Celestica.

“We could always count on Dad being part of the parade crew, zooming around on a golf cart,” reflects Dean’s daughter, Traci Kubisiak. “He loved the City of Fridley so much that it was the only place he wanted to be when it came time to talk about hospice. He wanted to be home. And Fridley was home.”



Dean Edward Saba, 1946-2016

After losing Lynne to bone marrow cancer in 2010, Dean became involved with Be the Match (National Marrow Donor Program) and is responsible for encouraging many to join the registry. He was the “Dean of all Deans” and adored his granddaughters.

Dean started serving on Fridley’s Energy and Environmental Commission in 1980, and was appointed chair in 1986. At that time, he served on both the EQEC and Planning Commissions until

1998. He returned to the Planning Commission in 2001 where he served until his passing. That’s over three decades of service just to the City of Fridley, not including all the work he did for the community at large.

Dean’s volunteerism was honored in 2012 with a WCCO Good Neighbor Award. He also won the Lions Hearing Foundation Award and the Melvin Jones Award.

“Dean made the best use of each day, and every minute in it, doing good for his family and others and the things he believed in,” says Lions member Dorothy Gargaro. “The members of our Fridley Lions Club really miss Dean and all his gentle, caring ways. May he rest in peace.”

We are sincerely grateful for everything Dean did for our community. He will be missed.



Wet & Wild Water Party

1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Wednesday, July 13
Commons Park
6249 7th Street NE

Make a splash!
Grades K-5
Event Only: \$6/person
Or make it a whole day of fun,
7:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.: \$21

Pre-registration is required
Fridley Parks & Recreation Department
763-572-3570 • www.FridleyMN.gov

Don’t Flush ANY Wipes

“Flushable” wipes are NOT flushable. Disposable wipes are causing problems in communities around the country and Fridley is no exception. Wipes – used for changing diapers, personal hygiene, housecleaning and more – cause major problems when flushed down the toilet. Though many of these products are labeled “flushable” or “septic safe,” they are not.

Disposable wipes do not break down the way toilet paper does, resulting in stress on community wastewater collection and treatment equipment. We are spending thousands on premature equipment repair and replacement. Wipes snag on any imperfection in sewer pipes, catching debris and grease, and create a “ball” that will grow to plug the pipe. They also get drawn into sewer-line and wastewater treatment pumps resulting in clogs and damage. The City asks residents to please dispose of any wipes in the garbage.



NICKEL JAMBOREE

1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Wednesday, August 4
Commons Park: 6249 7th St NE
Grades K-5

Bring your spare change and try your luck! Carnival games, face painting, hayrides, puppets and more. Kids under 6, bring your parent.

No need to pre-register. We’ll see you there!
Extended hours are available.
Call 763-572-3570 for details.

Get Ready – Elections 2016

Primary Election: Tuesday, August 9

2 ways to vote:

- In person on Election Day at your regular polling location
- By Absentee Ballot in person or by mail beginning June 24



Election Day Polling Locations

As this is a municipal and statewide election, all polling locations will be open for voting on August 9. Here is a list of polling places for the 2016 Elections:

Ward 1, Precinct 1	Grace Evangelical Free Church	755 73rd Avenue NE
Ward 1, Precinct 2	Hayes Elementary, West Gym	615 Mississippi Street NE
Ward 1, Precinct 3	Fridley Municipal Center	6431 University Avenue NE
Ward 1, Precinct 4	Fridley Community Center (East End)	6085 7th Street NE
Ward 2, Precinct 1	Woodcrest Elementary, Multi Purpose Room	880 Osborne Road
Ward 2, Precinct 2	Michael Servetus Unitarian Church	6565 Oakley Drive
Ward 2, Precinct 3	St. Phillip’s Lutheran Church	6180 Highway 65 NE
Ward 2, Precinct 4	North Park Elementary, Lower Level Gym	5575 Fillmore Street
Ward 3, Precinct 1	Springbrook Nature Center	100 85th Avenue NE
Ward 3, Precinct 2	Redeemer Lutheran Church	61 Mississippi Way
Ward 3, Precinct 3	Stevenson Elementary	6080 East River Road
Ward 3, Precinct 4	Fridley Covenant Church, East Side	6390 University Avenue NE

Remember, Minnesota does not have early voting, we have absentee voting. If you have any questions about the process, voter registration or elections in general, please call us at 763-572-3523 or email us at elections@FridleyMN.gov.

Learn. Share. Connect. Become a Springbrook Docent

Our physical vision is almost a reality and now we need you to bring it to life. Springbrook Nature Center is looking for volunteers who love our trails and exhibits as much as we do and can share that love as a docent/guide.

Benefits of being a docent:

- Expand your personal knowledge of our natural environment.
- Stay engaged in lifelong learning about nature, science and our community.
- Have fun discovering local ecosystems through the eyes of enthusiastic visitors.
- Make new friends who enjoy learning, exploration and working with people as much as you do!

Absentee Voting

You no longer need a reason to vote by absentee ballot. If you know you will be away or unable to get to your polling place on August 9, you may vote in person at Fridley City Hall beginning June 24, 2016, or by mail.

To request an absentee ballot you must first complete an absentee ballot application.

- Call the City Clerk’s office: 763-572-3523
- Email your request to elections@FridleyMN.gov
- Fill out an online application at MNVotes.org
- Complete one in person at City Hall when you come in to vote.

Once you have completed your application, bring it with you to obtain a ballot and vote. If you wish to vote by mail, go directly to mnvotes.org and request an absentee ballot online. Your ballot will be mailed directly to you.



Recycling

Missed the spring recycling event?

Good news – we have another one coming up!



Saturday, July 23 • 9 am – 1 pm

Fridley Public Works

400 71st Ave NE, Fridley

Watch for postcards coming in July!
Recycle electronics, appliances, mattresses, scrap metal and more.

Most items free!

Check the City website for details, www.FridleyMN.gov, or give us a call at (763) 572-3594.

Moore Lake Beach Opens Soon

Weather permitting, Moore Lake Beach will open June 11.

Normal Hours: Daily, Noon – 6:00 p.m.

Reminder: There will be no lifeguard on duty.

The City will close the beach whenever dangerous swimming conditions exist, and no person shall be permitted in the water during periods when the swimming area is declared closed.

Park Rules:

- Park in parking lots only.
- Dogs or pets are not allowed at the beach.
- Alcohol and tobacco use is prohibited in all City parks, including Moore Lake Beach.
- Park closing time is 10:00 p.m. Beach closing is earlier.
- The City places certain restrictions on noise and other disruptive behavior.
- Rental permits are issued for the picnic shelters. If you are using a shelter without a permit, you may be required to move.

Park Shelter Permits are available. Rental fees are \$35 for residents and \$75 for non-residents (plus tax). A refundable damage/clean-up deposit is also required. Reservations for picnic areas do not grant exclusive use of the park. For details or to check availability, call 763-572-3570.



Requirements:

- Completed a Springbrook Volunteer Application
- Clean Background Check
- Attend initial orientation and subsequent trainings
- Sign up for 4 hours of volunteer service each month

Volunteer applications can be found online at springbrooknaturecenter.org.

For more information, contact Tara Rogness at 763-572-3588 or tara.rogness@FridleyMN.gov.





NIGHT to UNITE!

Neighbors Joining Together

Tuesday, August 2, 2016

“Focused and Forward”

Celebrate Community Partnership

New This Year: Register for your neighborhood block party online!

*Registration is required to request a visit from police, fire or City officials.

FridleyMN.gov/Night2Unite

Questions? Call Liz Chevalier at (763) 572-3626 or email FridleyPolice@FridleyMN.gov

Introducing... Fridley Fire New Recruits

Meet Ryan: Ryan Wickstrom was so excited to be accepted into the Anoka Fire Academy with Fridley Fire that he jumped up and flipped a table! Ryan works in private protection and loss prevention. He eats pomegranates, of all things, and enjoys photography, mechanics and the great outdoors.

Meet Alisa: Born in Germany, Alisa Brakic joined Fridley Fire to restore the calm and give back to the community that raised her. She also works at Gander Mountain and is a student. She describes herself as a determined, happy learner.

Meet Matthew: A world traveler, Matthew Stallings has lived in 4 different countries over the last 12 years including Malaysia, Kenya and England. He is an EMT, enjoys all things musical and is on an endless search for authentic Thai green curry.

Meet Joe: As a Fridley High School alumni, community pride is very important to Joe Pyka and one of his main reasons for joining Fridley Fire. Outside firefighting, Joe works as an insurance claims adjuster and is an outdoorsman with his love of hunting, fishing and woodworking.



From left to right: Ryan Wickstrom, Alisa Brakic, Matthew Stallings, Joe Pyka

Fire Safe Schools

The safety of students is a top priority for schools, for the City, for local and national leaders and for fire professionals across the nation. One of the best ways we can prevent catastrophic results from a fire is through automatic fire sprinklers.

“Fire sprinklers are an invaluable safety measure for any building, and this is especially true for our schools,” says Rick Current, Fridley Fire Marshal. “Fire sprinklers can save lives and protect property loss. They are an essential part of any safety plan.”



By the time students return to class this fall, all Fridley schools will be completely sprinklered. Minnesota sets the bar high for fire safety in schools and have gone the extra mile to develop statewide building and fire codes that address fire safety in older school buildings, which were constructed prior to current standards.

- In 2014, there were 155 fires reported in schools, with an average dollar loss of \$2,393, compared to a national average loss of \$14,060.
- In 2014, there were zero reported injuries or fatalities due to these fires in Minnesota, compared to 4.5 reported nationally.

The final two Fridley schools, Fridley High School and Totino Grace High School, will be complete this summer during their remodeling which will include adding fire sprinklers to the areas of the schools not currently sprinkler-protected.

Installing up-to-date, working fire sprinklers throughout a building can be an expensive and time-consuming process, and yet one of the most important fire prevention measures a building can take. The Fridley Fire Department wants to thank both Fridley High School and Totino Grace for their efforts in getting the buildings fully protected by fire sprinkler systems and putting student safety first.

Congratulations Captain Matt Allard



Matthew Allard was promoted to Fire Captain in March. He has been with Fridley Fire since 2006. His roots run deep in our community as a Fridley High School graduate. Currently, he is completing his Fire Sciences Degree from Keiser University. Matthew obtained his Firefighter 1 & 2 Certifications, along with his Fire Officer 1 Certification, Hazardous Materials Operations Certification, and his Emergency Medical Certificate.

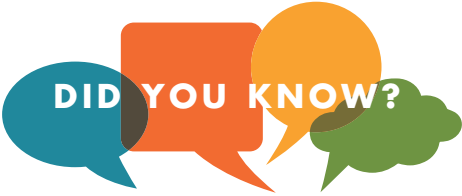
Don't Be a Burn-Out

Rec Fires 101: Make sure to completely distinguish your recreational fire.

Here are a few quick reminders as you enjoy a night by the fire or roasting s'mores.

- No burning between midnight and 9:00 a.m.
- Use only clean wood or charcoal.
- Fires must be 25 feet from any structure and in a contained area (e.g. firepit)
- No fires on windy days or during a “burning ban”
- Fires should be smaller than 3 feet in diameter and flames no more than 2 feet high.
- A competent adult must supervise the fire at all times.
- Keep water (bucket or garden hose) or a fire extinguisher nearby.

For details on Fridley City Code regarding bonfires/campfires or for additional fire safety information, visit the city website at FridleyMN.gov/firesafety.



Approximately **98% of wildfires in Minnesota** are **caused by humans**, and **more than 50 wildfires** are started each year in Minnesota by campfires that are not completely extinguished, too large or are unattended.

Hurry - Summer Camps are Filling Quickly!



Let your kids unplug this summer with Fridley summer camps! Get out and get active and make this a summer of memories



Weekly Day Camps run through mid-August
Get in touch with nature at Springbrook



Or ROCK out the summer at the Zone and Community Center

Field trips, themes, new activities each day
Visit us at FridleyMn.gov/recreation and discover Fridley Fun.



Students Get a Hard Lesson Before Prom

“We did everything we could for her.” Chilling words, and ones that brought tears to the father of 18-year-old Anna McGrath. The scenario was pretend, but the tears were real. And the possibility is scary.

What the movies, television shows and newscasts do not show you is the impact this kind of tragedy has on families, students and friends. It does not end when the glass is swept, the wounds are covered or the body bag is loaded into the hearse. For many, it is only the beginning.

Fridley Police want to bring that message home. Last year, they presented Arrive Alive to Fridley High School students. This year it was presented to students at Totino-Grace – less than two weeks before prom.

The scenario: Kids hanging out. They have a few drinks. They get into a car, and they drive. Loud music, fiddling with music on a phone, texting, loud voices... and in less than a minute, their lives changed forever.



This two-day event takes months of planning and a commitment from school staff, students and Fridley Police. Officer Mark Mickelson worked closely with students to design a program personalized to them.

“An event this tragic stays with you, long after the accident is cleared, and this scenario is completely preventable. This is one of the few opportunities when we as police officers actually get a chance to do preventative policing,” says Officer Mickelson. “This is a community event put on by the community. It’s the people and businesses that make this event happen. The hope is to get a message out there and make a difference wherever you can.”

One moment, one second, of distracted driving can change your life and the lives of others forever. Arrive Alive does more than talk about it. This program makes kids feel the impact in a way that we hope will have a lasting effect.

On Day 1, students witnessed the crash scene. They heard the frantic 9-1-1 call, and they experienced the chaos that followed. Police arrived on the scene. Followed by Fire. A girl was lying on the road, unresponsive. Screaming, blood, glass... The crowd was silent. There are no words. Another student, 17-year-old Miranda Nichols, not wearing a seatbelt and thrown through the windshield, was pronounced dead at the scene and carried off in a hearse. The driver was arrested. Yet, this was not the most impactful part of the program.



Day 2, students at Totino-Grace silently filed into the auditorium, now set up for liturgy. All eyes on the powerful, closed casket at the front of the room. Miranda’s mother asks why. She asks for one more day. She asks you not to forget. Anna’s father speaks from his heart as he attempts to summarize 18 years in a few short words. Even during a simulation, these words hit home, bringing real tears to students, to staff, even to the tough police officers in the room.

Anoka County Prosecutor Tony Palumbo takes the audience on a journey of what happens next. One stupid mistake = three life tragedies, and no one is ever the same again.

Let this high school simulation serve as a reminder to all of us:



Citizen’s Academy 2016

Get a first-hand, unfiltered look at how officers in Fridley perform their duties and serve the community.

At a time when speculation and assumption is the media spotlight, it can be difficult to understand what it means to serve and protect a community. We invite you to get an in-depth and inside look at Fridley Police.

- What do they encounter during a patrol shift? Ride along with an officer and find out.
- Police K-9s are beautiful animals, but what are they really trained for? How do they assist officers? Watch a K-9 at work.
- When does an officer use force? What does that mean? What does a taser do? See or even feel the effect.
- What happens when you call 9-1-1? Experience a call from start to finish.



- How do officers handle domestic violence situations? How do they guard their personal safety? Learn how to protect yourself and be aware of your surroundings.
- What happens after an arrest? Get an inside look at criminal investigations.
- Undercover – what does the drug world look like? Dive into a narcotics investigation.

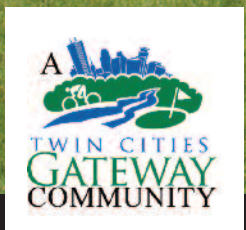
And that is just the beginning. Come join us for this 8-week course into what it means to be a Fridley Officer.

Citizen’s Academy is held Wednesday nights, September 7 – October 26 from 6 – 9 p.m.

The Citizen’s Academy is free and open to anyone who lives or works in Fridley. You must be 18 years or older with no felony convictions. Space is limited. Criminal background checks are required. Fill out a short application today online at FridleyMN.gov/Police or call 763-572-3629.

“The benefit is not only informational, but also relational. Participants will meet more than half of all the officers that work for the police department and will develop relationships with them.”

“The entire fabric of the community is strengthened when the community and police work with and better understand each other.” – Sergeant Jim Mork, Fridley Police



Fridley's '49er Days Festival

June 16, 17 & 18

Commons Park
6249 7th Street NE
(corner of 61st and 7th)

Thursday, June 16

6:20 p.m. Run for Fun –
kick off the parade!

6:30 p.m.

'49er Days Parade -
Rain or Shine

Friday, June 17

6:00 p.m. - Midnight

BINGO

Karaoke Contest

Food! Food! Food!

Street Dance featuring
Jonah and the Whales

Beer Tent

Wine Booth

Saturday, June 18

All day fun: Noon - Midnight

Kids Day – Games, Slides,
Inflatables and More

Karaoke Contest

BINGO

Petting Zoo

Pie Baking Contest

FHS All School Reunion

Street Dance with Union Junction

Beer Tent / Wine Booth

Exhibit Booths

Food! Food! Food!

Football Youth Clinic

Allina Wellness Van

Teen Night:

Commons South Rink
"My Misconception"
live band

Pizza Eating Contest

New this year:

Dunk a Cop!
Firefighter Water Wars!



For up-to-date details visit "Fridley Days" on Facebook and LIKE us!



FREE Youth Football Clinic

With 3-Time National Champs, St. Paul Pioneers
Ages 8 to 14

Saturday, June 18 (during Fridley '49er Days) • Noon – 2:00 p.m.
Commons Park

Learn or get a refresher on football basics:
throwing, catching, route running and defensive drills.

Register in advance and get 2 FREE tickets to the July 9 game when
the St. Paul Pioneers will take on the MN Sting at Concordia University.

Call 763-572-3570 or register online at FridleyMN.gov

